



# Longdendale

H I G H S C H O O L

18<sup>th</sup> March 2020

Dear Families,

## Re: Partial Opening

As I have previously updated you, we have been following the government and Department for Education guidance with regard to managing the current COVID-19 situation and in ensuring school remains open for as long as possible.

Although we have no confirmed cases within school, we are as I am sure you will appreciate, experiencing reduced staffing levels and our ability to continue to keep all learners in school is proving increasingly challenging. From tomorrow (Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> March), we will have to implement partial opening initially for Years 7, 8, 10 and 11, which means that Year 9 pupils should not attend until further notice. Please be assured that this is not a decision we have taken lightly and we will of course review this situation on a daily basis, using all of the information available to us, and we will keep you updated accordingly.

Please note that provision has been made for those Year 9 learners who have parents who are working in the NHS, those who have an Educational Health Care Plan, and those who are eligible for free school meals to be in school as normal. If your child falls into one of these categories and you will be sending them into school tomorrow, please can you confirm by text or email [admin@lhs.aspireplus.org.uk](mailto:admin@lhs.aspireplus.org.uk) before 8pm this evening to enable us to plan effectively.

Learners who are not able to attend school either due to self-isolation, or due to partial school opening, will be sent work via their school email account in the first instance. If you need paper copies of work, please contact the main school office and these will be made available to you.

In the event that in the coming days or weeks we are forced to close the school to more pupils, we will inform parents at the earliest opportunity via the website, letters and text messages. We will continue to provide pupils work via online platforms and emails. We have no further updates currently in relation to GCSE examinations. We will continue to monitor advice from Ofqual and, of course, we will share updates with you when we are made aware of any changes. As a school, we will continue to keep you updated in relation to our operation via text messages and the school website. The safety of learners, staff and their families is paramount to us and we will continue to follow advice.

This means that there may be further changes to our operations at short notice. I would like to thank parents and carers for the support you have given us in these challenging and unprecedented circumstances. I know that you will continue to show us the usual unwavering support through the coming weeks. Please do not hesitate to contact school with any further queries.

Yours faithfully,

Andrea Jones  
Headteacher

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